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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ROBERT P. CASEY, Jr., a Senator from the State of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by Pastor James E. Sturdivant, Sr., Faith United Ministries, Washington, DC.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our Father and our God, in whose presence we enjoy the blessedness of life, we humbly call upon You. We acknowledge our limitations and total dependence upon Your strength, wisdom, insight, and direction. Hear our prayer, O God.

As we come to the opening of this session, we are mindful of Your admonition that we are subject to the governing authorities, their power is from You, and that we are to pray for them. It is for this reason that we commit these men and women, our Senators, to Your care. Please give them the grace to grapple with the difficulties of life, law, and legislature. During this season of transition, times of anxiety, we ask for the wisdom of King Solomon in handling issues that affect the welfare of the masses.

Continue to guard and protect the families and the loved ones of these, our officials. Allow these families to be a strong support system at home after long hours in these hallowed halls. We trust You to keep our Nation, we trust You to guide our leaders, and grant us Your peace.

This is our prayer. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ROBERT P. CASEY, Jr., led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, June 14, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ROBERT P. CASEY, Jr., a Senator from the State of Pennsylvania, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. CASEY thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there will be no morning business today. Following the remarks, if any, of myself and Senator McCONNELL, the Senate will resume consideration of the energy legislation.

There is currently pending a Bingham first-degree amendment regarding renewables and a Domenici second-degree amendment on the same subject.

I am going to be meeting with the managers of the bill as soon as possible to find out how we are doing and what they think can be done to move us toward finalizing this bill. We have, in Senators BINGAMAN and DOMENICI, two real professionals in this body. They are both from the same State, both on the same committee, one is chairman and one is ranking on the committee, and that has gone back and forth in re-

cent years. So I am confident we can move toward resolving this issue.

The other issue that is difficult that we need to work on is dealing with the efficiency of automobiles, the CAFE aspect of the bill. There should be an amendment laid down by Senator LEVIN on that matter. He thought he could do that today, so perhaps, when we dispose of this, we can move to that.

These are the two big issues, as I see them. There are other important issues, such as coal and gas, that a number of Senators want to debate, and we can do that. It is an important bill and, I repeat, a bipartisan bill. This is not a Democratic bill or a Republican bill. The only matters that came before the Senate were bipartisan bills that were reported out of the various committees, and we put those together and that is what is now on the floor.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I will shortly be making a statement in my leader time related to the Burma sanctions bill, which I introduce every year at this time, but I need to first consult with the majority leader.

For the moment, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The minority leader is recognized.

Mr. McCONNELL. I thank the Chair.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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